

INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
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Armed services requirements for canned citrus juices, just released by the QMC this week, are as follows, basis dozen No. 2's: Blended juices, 269,778; orange juice, 659,705; and grapefruit juice, sweetened, 269,778. Formal bids will be issued by QMC within the next few days.

USDA on November 7 announced that it will purchase for export purposes of a minimum of 50 million pounds of meat canned in Mexico between the present time and July 1, 1948. USDA said the program, which is authorized under Public Law 8, 80th Congress, is being undertaken in cooperation with the Mexican Government as a part of the plan to eradicate the foot and mouth disease in Mexico.

State Department officials announced this week that for the year 1947 thus far, the United States has exported goods and services at the rate of \$19,000,000,000, while importing only about \$8,000,000,000 worth. Commerce Department figures show that exports to Europe dropped in September to the lowest point for any month this year, falling to \$394,300,000, as compared with \$410,000,000 in August.

Pack of California sardines for the 1947 season to date is still lagging behind last year's production. For complete details, see story on page 467 of this issue.

Directors Approve Plans for Expanded N.C.A. Activities

The Board of Directors of the National Canners Association, meeting in and all day session at the Palmer House, Chicago, November 15—

Heard the interim report of the Committee on Public Relations containing the Opinion Research survey recommendations to make the Committee permanent and to add a trained public relations man to the staff. Directed further study leading to a final report by the Committee in January, along with recommendations on ways and means of financing an N.C.A. public relations program. This report was presented by Vice President Howard T. Cumming for Chairman B. C. Olney.

Referred the report on can size standardization back to the Committee on Simplification of Containers for further consideration leading to a final report by Chairman Ivan Moorhouse in January.

Accepted and approved Director Happer Payne's report on the Association's labeling work and moved that specific programs along the lines he reported be worked out with the Labeling Committee and submitted to the Board for approval at its next meeting.

Heard Oliver Willits report that at the moment it looks as if there will be ample tin plate for packers cans for 1948, but that, of course, restoration of government controls would have a bearing on this situation as would any exorbitant demand for export plate under the Marshall Plan.

Approved proposals made by Director Charles H. Mahoney for expanding and developing action programs on the part of the Raw Products Bureau, and directed the Raw Products Committee to work on the effectuation of the program.

Voted authorization (See *Plans for N. C. A. Activities*, page 458)

Rutz Tells Wisconsin Canners of N.C.A. Services

At the 43rd annual convention of the Wisconsin Canners Association in Milwaukee on November 10, N.C.A. President Emil Rutz stated that canning industry practices are governed by scientific research and are responsive to consumer desires. The industry's responsiveness to scientific patterns and consumer requirements is brought about in two ways, Mr. Rutz explained. While many of the larger canners have their own technological and research units

and their own home economics staffs, the smaller firms have the benefit of the Laboratories and research facilities of the National Cannery Association and the services of the Home Economics Division and other N.C.A. experts, constantly contacting and ascertaining the preferences of canned food users.

These Association services are made available to all canners—great and small, he said. Consumers of the canning industry's products are thus benefited by the quality controls and the concern for canned foods users that are developed from this scientific and professional approach.

Mr. Rutz reminded the Wisconsin canners that such progress in their industry arises from its pioneering characteristics, and said that this spirit is responsible for the tremendous growth of the canning industry in Wisconsin.

"To push beyond the confines of what has already been put in order is to have faith in the unseen, in that strength that lies in indomitable purpose and the will to win. It is the ascendancy of the unattained over the achieved," Mr. Rutz stated.

Canners Must Pioneer

As long as canners continue to be pioneers, the canning industry will continue to prosper, to pack even better foods and to serve the needs of this great Nation, Mr. Rutz declared. Warning the Wisconsin canners that the canning industry must continue to bear its own burdens and not ask for Government aid, Mr. Rutz stated:

"Seeking government subsidies is akin to the 'Somebody owes me a living' attitude, because it is asking that the public, which did not have a voice in our decision, share the losses resulting from the exercise of the rights of each of us under the free enterprise system to determine the size of our respective packs as we see fit, according to our individual judgment of future trends. The temptations are obvious, the dangers more so, and it is simply incredible if we fail to see the clear way ahead. For any industry proclaiming to be unadulterated advocates of free enterprise, a government subsidy is a run to cover, a fearfully equivocal cover at that, with vision running to 20 percent of normal and fever at 106."

C. W. Bohrer of the N.C.A. Washington Research Laboratory staff, on November 11, described results of a survey conducted in 74 Wisconsin pea canneries this past summer by the Association. The survey was carried out with a staff of laboratory tech-

nicians using the Association's mobile truck laboratory. Studies similar to the one in Wisconsin pea canneries have been made by the N.C.A. in nearly 1,000 canning plants in about half of the States, and for more than 20 different canned products, Mr. Bohrer declared.

PLANS FOR N.C.A. ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page page 457)

of the appointment of a Special Commodity Committee to study the technical problems of the corn packing industry suggested in the report D. R. Montgomery made for Chairman R. H. Winters of the Sweet Corn Harvester Conference held October 17.

Granted authority to the President and Secretary to select future Annual Convention locations at any time it serves expediency to do so and also approved other recommendations in the report of Chairman William Kinnaid of the Convention Committee, particularly the suggestion that after 1948 the duration of Conventions be returned to a one-week, Friday-to-Friday basis.

Approved the report on the development of pack and stock reporting programs of the Division of Statistics, made by Chairman Milton Brooding of the Committee on Statistics.

Approved the report by Chairman Harold Bachelder of the Special Food and Drug Committee on questions of administration of the Act and voted continuation of the Committee.

Heard the progress report of Chairman John McGovern of the Legislative Committee summarizing the status of current measures affecting canning.

Moved continuation of efforts to have Government procurement on a negotiated instead of a bid basis following a report by Chairman J. B. Weix of the Special Committee on Government Procurement.

Received final report of Chairman H. E. Gray of the Western Branch Laboratory Site Committee covering the purchase of a suitable site for a West Coast laboratory building, and authorized appointment of an Over-all Buildings Committee to proceed with development of building plans for the entire Association on recommendation presented by Marc C. Hutchinson of the Administrative Council.

Heard report of Counsel H. T. Austern on the recent preparation and distribution of the Rules of Arbitration handbook, the approval of arbitration committees and drafting of a new arbitration clause; on the status of proposed amendments to the Labor

Standards Act; and granted Counsel authority to file a brief defining first processing in a West Coast case.

Passed resolutions opposing construction of additional dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers threatening existence of salmon industry in those localities unless a survey of the projects that would demonstrate their public need is made.

Endorsed the program of the Pacific Fisheries Conference in urging appointment of an Assistant Secretary of State responsible for protection of American fishing and fish processing activities in international treaties.

Heard Dr. E. J. Cameron's account of N.C.A. Laboratory work done in preparation for public hearings on standards for canned asparagus, green and wax beans, and corn.

Heard and approved the Financial Report presented by Chairman Fred A. Stare of the Finance Committee. This includes addition of \$25,000 to the budget to meet possible expenses of the new Over-all Buildings Committee.

The meeting of the Board was preceded by a meeting of the Administrative Council and by meetings of the Committees on Standardization of Containers, Public Relations, Convention, and the subcommittee of the Legislative Committee on farm labor problems. The quarterly meeting of the officers was held at the conclusion of the Directors meeting.

The verbatim reports of various committee chairmen and staff members are presented elsewhere in this issue and an index of these reports appears on page 457. In cases where the reports were brief and informal, they are covered in the summary paragraphs above.

Export Tinplate Allocations

Export allocations of tinplate for the third and fourth quarters of 1947 total 280,000 tons, consisting of 238,000 tons for food to be consumed abroad, 22,000 tons for other essential uses, including export requirements of domestic oil companies and other nonfood purposes, and 20,000 tons for packaging food to be imported into the United States, the Secretary of Commerce reported this week.

Exports of tinplate under the allocations for the third and fourth quarters of this year are expected to amount to approximately 14.5 percent of total tinplate production in this country.

OPENING REMARKS TO THE N.C.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Emil Rutz, President

We had hoped that we might be able to save you the time and trouble of this interim meeting, but a good many subjects of importance on which your advice and guidance is required have come up. It is gratifying to have such fine response and cooperation.

The program for today's meeting, as you can see, provides opportunity for reports to be made to the Board on the work of several important Association committees, which work has been in progress since the last Board meeting. I will, therefore, in these opening remarks touch just briefly on some of the activities of the Association since that meeting that are not covered by committee reports, so that the Board may be fully posted on this year's progress to date.

You will recall that at the last Board meeting the budget was increased to provide for expansion of the work of the Home Economics Division, after the chairman of the Home Economics Committee had presented a program for such expansion, which was approved by this body. Since then the Division has greatly increased its work and is in the swing of a large-scale educational campaign.

The Executive Committee has acted to carry out Board recommendations in two other matters, one by authorizing the addition to the budget of \$3,000 to permit an expenditure of \$11,000 for the public relations survey, the results of which are to be reported later in this meeting by the Public Relations Committee, and the other in approving, on behalf of the Association, the personnel of the Joint

Arbitration Boards. Membership of these Boards has been approved by the Executive Committee, the Association has notified each member of such approval and supplied them with copies of the newly published Rules of Arbitration which establish uniform procedure for the arbitration of all controversies to which a canner is a party, arising from sales of canned foods.

In accordance with the suggestion made at the Board meeting last January at Atlantic City, the officers this year have met quarterly for consultation and discussion of the affairs of the Association. For each occasion Secretary Campbell and the staff prepared full reports on work programs—proposed and accomplished. These meetings have been, we believe, a decided benefit to the smooth and forward progress of Association activities.

REPORT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

By Howard Cumming for B. C. Olney, Chairman

The Public Relations Committee met yesterday with all members except one in attendance. Dr. Claude E. Robinson, President of Opinion Research, discussed preparation of the analysis of the public relations activities of the Association which he had been engaged to make, copies of which had already been sent to the committee for their study prior to yesterday's meeting. Various members of the committee questioned Dr. Robinson on points raised in his report and on the conduct of public relations in general. The chairman also requested Mr. Campbell to comment on the report. After further discussion the committee went into executive session.

At the Administrative Council meeting Dr. Robinson summarized portions of his report for the benefit of Council members and amplified other sections of it. The chairman of the Public Relations Committee reviewed for the Council the function of the committee, the meetings held, the engagement of Dr. Robinson to make the survey and analysis, and stated that the committee believes there is an excellent opportunity in the field which is outlined in the report, copies of which were to be given to each Council member. The chairman also stated that the committee unanimously approved the two outstanding recommendations of Dr. Robinson, which were the appointment of a permanent committee and the addition to the staff of a trained professional public relations man.

Association officers present at the meeting of the committee asked the present committee to continue its activities and to make a final report in January to the Administrative Council

and the Board, including recommendations as to ways and means of financing. The committee agreed, and the chairman stated that this report is therefore but an interim report and the committee has the further charge of presenting a program for effectuating the work recommended to be undertaken in the report, such program to be placed before members of the Board well in advance of the January meeting so that ample time would be provided for full study of the report and its implications.

The chairman then read to the Council that portion of Dr. Robinson's report concerning who, in Dr. Robinson's

opinion, is qualified to act as a public relations counselor, how he would function in relation to other work done in the Association, and what Dr. Robinson believes should be done to capitalize adequately upon the Association's work.

The chairman also stated to the Administrative Council that he did not think the committee was sufficiently informed at the present time to talk in terms of money, but that the committee was of the opinion that there is an opportunity to do a real job and that it may take real money. He requested Council members to give the committee the benefit of their consideration of the report, emphasizing that suggestions would be helpful.

REVIEW OF LABELING WORK AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

By Happer Payne, Director

We will not detail the steps which have brought the N.C.A. labeling program up to its present position other than to make one or two historical references. This Association from its very beginning has publicly recognized the responsibility of this industry to the public.

It is a fact that the method of labeling which was christened Descriptive Labeling was first offered as a counter to the pressures for the inclusion of mandatory grade labeling under the NRA Code.

It is equally a fact that as the program has progressed, it has developed into a program standing on its own feet and in its own right as a means of providing information for consumers.

The early emphasis was properly

put on the development of specific labeling recommendations for specific products, in other words converting a theory into a reality. By 1942 there were sufficient specific recommendations to warrant the publication of a substantial label manual and to make plans to foster their use on labels. But the war had come and properly the labeling program was laid aside. In November 1944, the Board on the recommendation of the Labeling Committee unanimously voted to revive the labeling program.

In earlier years the discussions of different labeling methods had too often created emotional strains and had even engendered hard feelings. In reviving the program, the Board took a most important step by passing a resolution which says in substance:

1. We believe descriptive labeling best serves the consumer's interests.

2. We are opposed to mandatory grade labeling imposed by law and regulation.

3. We do however respect the privilege of anyone who in the consumer interests elects voluntarily to use grade labeling on his products.

With passage of the foregoing resolution, the Board cleared the way for constructive action in developing and sponsoring its labeling program unhampered by time-consuming controversy.

Labeling Program

Why should any industry, for instance the canning industry, have a labeling program? The answer is simple. The canner knows what is in the can when he sees it. The wholesaler knows what is in the can when he buys it. The consumer finds out what is inside the can when she opens it in her kitchen. She and the industry will be better off if she knows beforehand. If she can be guided to a purchase which is satisfactory to her, the individual canner, and consequently the industry, will benefit by repeat sales.

There is at least one more tangible, but just as real, advantage in an industry labeling program. In our high schools, colleges, and in many women's clubs studies are being conducted of everyday consumer goods—their properties—how to use them and how to buy them. Our young people—tomorrow's customers—are being taught to look at labels. When and if there are sufficient canned food labels which are truly and helpfully informative, the way is open on which to construct a far-reaching educational program on how to buy and use canned foods.

It is well to re-emphasize that the N.C.A. labeling program is purely voluntary for any canner or distributor to use if he himself thinks it best to do so. It is important, however, that it be understood just what this program is. Consumer leaders and writers on the subject of labeling agree that the consumer should have specific facts. The principle of this program is that specific facts can best be conveyed by simple words or phrases as nearly self-explanatory as possible. On the theory that the canners of each item know more about it than anyone else, the recommendations for labeling of any one product are always made by a committee of canners of that product.

Two and a half years ago, the major distributor associations appointed representatives on a Distributors' Advisory Committee. When any commodity committee has prepared tentative recommendations, they are submitted to the Distributors' Committee for comment and suggestion. Our commodity committees are pledged to consider with all seriousness any recommendations of the distributors. But it is clearly understood that the final

decisions on any labeling recommendations are to be left to the canners and the canner committees.

The ultimate objective of this program is to find and recommend for every important product a label statement for every fact of genuine significance to the consumer, provided that fact can be defined by a scientific measure or a self-defining statement. The reason for a scientific measurement or completely objective definition is of course to confine any recommended label statement to its proper use, relying on scientific measurement rather than on individual personal opinion.

For many years the Labeling Committee and the Board have been on public record that the consumer should be supplied with factual and specific information about canned foods. The Association has gone further than offering lip service to this policy. A specific labeling program has been developed for voluntary use. While not complete, the recommendations are sufficiently advanced that they can be applied to many labels.

We cannot continue to gain the approval of consumers and educators if this policy is expressed only in words and only in the form of a labeling manual. This program cannot continue to win approval unless the labels themselves reflect the recommendations. The future is in the hands of individual canners and distributors.

An encouraging number of changes have been made to labels following N.C.A. recommendations, and we know of more canners and distributors who are now preparing to incorporate the Labeling Committee recommendations on next season's run of labels. It should be added that most of these changes will be for the succulent vegetables, particularly peas. The reason is that labeling recommendations for

these products are of longer standing and are better understood.

For the first time since this program was inaugurated, both conditions for success are favorable: (1) There is a fairly extensive set of labeling regulations; (2) there is no obstacle of any kind for the canner or distributor to print the recommended label statements on his own labels.

In 1946 the Board passed a resolution in which it urged upon every canner and distributor the use at the earliest possible time of the (recommended) labeling terms.

From the experience of your Labeling Division it can be said as a positive fact that the passage of such a resolution does not in itself achieve the result which the resolution sets as its goal. Experience has proved that explanation to canner and distributor is necessary and that personal contacts are best—the more the better. It can be said on the basis of past experience that this kind of effort, particularly if supported with reasonable publicity, will bear fruit. It should be added that the education, or selling, or whatever you wish to call it can be effectively done without high pressure and can be done constructively and without controversy.

There is a simple question which this Board perhaps might well consider. Does the present Board wish to reaffirm the position of the previous Board, with the full understanding that its desires cannot be made realities without some definite program of "education" or "selling"?

Any specific and definite program should be presented to the Board by the Labeling Committee. That cannot be done at this Board meeting, but if the Board wishes, a plan can be prepared for Labeling Committee consideration.

EXPANSION OF ACTIVITIES OF THE RAW PRODUCTS BUREAU

By C. H. Mahoney, Director

Mr. Campbell has asked me to present to you today some ideas as to how the Raw Products Bureau might expand its activities to include a more active and aggressive participation in the application of research to production and raw-product quality control of canning crops.

The primary objective of such a program would naturally be to improve efficiency and lower costs of production, harvesting, and handling of raw products. I should like to point out, before outlining such a program, that there is no thought on my part, or on Mr. Campbell's, that the work now being done by the Bureau would be discontinued. Dr. Woodbury, as you know, established an excellent foundation for our activities, and we will continue this work.

However, concrete results from a great deal of this type of work are not immediately evident to a large number of our members.

How, then, can our activities be expanded, amplified, or redirected in such a manner as to produce more immediate results in an "action" program? We have some ideas on how this might be done, but to carry them out will necessarily involve considerable cooperation and at times active participation on the part of members of the industry. Such a program may also represent something of a change in the policies which have heretofore governed the work of the Bureau. We would therefore like to get the viewpoint of the Board on three specific examples of such an expanded program, one relating to quality measurements on raw products at selected experiment stations, another concerned

with consideration of the desirability of developing an overall agricultural policy as a part of an improved canner-grower relations program, and third, an industry-sponsored research program in agricultural engineering. Brief discussions of each of these follow:

In order to set up a program on quality measurements on raw products, the Association, through the Raw Products Bureau, might sponsor research at experiment stations through grants-in-aid to develop basic information on objective tests of maturity and quality as modified by variety, soil conditions, and climatological factors. This type of work is imperative on those crops on which hearings on standards of identity and quality are to be held.

Quality of Raw Product

We must have acceptable, unbiased evidence on the inherent variations in the quality of the raw product, and be able to understand thoroughly the causes of these variations. These studies cannot be made by spot sampling throughout the industry, but experiments must be planned, subject to control by an experiment station whose integrity is unquestioned. Further examples of the need for similar type of work are sweet corn, asparagus, lima beans and, citrus juice. It is known that in addition to stage of maturity, variety, rootstocks, light vs. heavy soil, and the spray and fertilizer program used all have an enormous effect on the quality of fresh orange juice. However, no experimental data are available as to the degree of relationship of these differences in the fresh juice with those of canned single strength juice.

If the Board feels that this type of work should be done, the Bureau, after consultation with the selected experiment stations, can submit projects giving the objectives, duration of the experiment, and total cost for your consideration.

In discussing the desirability of developing an overall agricultural policy as a part of an improved canner-grower relations program, I should like to point out that the importance of expanded efforts within the industry on canner-grower relations, particularly during the next few years, has already been brought to your attention through the report of the Raw Products Committee presented at the last meeting of the Board, and by the Public Relations Committee.

For the purpose of improving canner-grower relations, the significance of greater canner participation as a taxpayer and citizen in an agricultural community cannot be over-emphasized, in view of the Hope-Flannagan Act and the long-range agricultural program which has recently been proposed by the Depart-

ment of Agriculture. You might logically ask why we emphasize so strongly that canners should concern themselves so much in agricultural affairs. The answer is that, first, a large section of the canning industry is already engaged—either directly or indirectly—in the production of crops.

Some canners own sizable acreages on which farming, including production of canning crops, is a separate part of their canning business operation. Others have extensive farming operations on leased land. Second, other canners have been forced to provide custom work on harvesting, spraying, or dusting and even planting, in order to obtain acreage because labor is short or because growers could not afford to invest in expensive farming equipment for small acreages. Also, some canners are doing custom work in order to obtain a greater degree of raw product quality control. It is apparent, therefore, that a section of the canning industry is already actively engaged, either fully or in part, in agriculture. It would seem logical that the industry should take the next step and formulate a general agricultural policy and participate actively in carrying it out.

It would appear that the first step in our agricultural plan would be to initiate an educational campaign in each canning crops area with farmers, explaining all the implications of long-range plans being considered by the USDA. The mechanics of such a campaign entail a careful consideration of the relationships among the AAA, PMA, Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service, Land-Grant Colleges and the farm organizations such as the Farm Bureau, Grange, and others. This entails active participation by the canner and his field staff in agricultural community affairs.

If the Board of Directors should decide that it might be advisable to consider such an agricultural plan or policy, it is believed that the Raw Products Bureau and the Raw Products Committee could draft such a campaign, which could then be considered in detail by the Legislative Committee or an agricultural subcommittee of that committee.

Expansion of Bureau

In outlining what we mean by suggesting that an expansion of activities in the Raw Products Bureau might include development of an industry-sponsored research program in agricultural engineering, it is perhaps not necessary to state at the beginning, what we all know, that the unit cost of production chargeable to labor has been increasing and that in certain agricultural areas this increase has been greater on a percentage basis than the cost of raw materials. The cost of agricultural labor has not only increased but the output and quality of work has decreased. This deprecia-

tion in the quality of agricultural labor has made it necessary for the canner to increase the amount of hand labor in the plant on both sorting belts and inspection tables. All this has contributed to increased costs of raw products out of all proportion to their real value as measured by prewar standards.

When Prices Decline

If and when prices of finished as well as raw products start to decline, these increased labor costs, which probably will not decline in proportion, cannot all be passed on either to the consumer or farmer, in a competitive market. The practical solution of this labor problem would appear to be complete mechanization of production methods. If we accept this solution as canners and growers, or growers' representatives, we must acknowledge that the development of improved agricultural machinery as well as scientific agricultural engineering research is in its infancy, or, as some people believe, still in the process of childbirth. Is it not logical to invest in research for the future during this period of good prices and income in an effort to be in position to lower costs of production in that inevitable period of readjustment some time not too far off?

Agricultural engineering research is a highly specialized field and it is only during the past few years that trained personnel have been developed to work on it. Research in this field is likewise expensive, and for this reason—as well as the personnel problem—neither governmental agencies nor agricultural experiment stations have made much progress in the development of new equipment. Equipment manufacturers have made some effort to improve agricultural machinery of existing types, and, to be perfectly frank, neither sufficient time nor money has been spent on new basic fundamental research in design.

You may naturally ask why aren't the agricultural machinery equipment manufacturers at work on this job, concentrating on efforts to embody new ideas in their equipment. Machinery to do the kind of work we need done would represent only a comparatively small percent of their total business. It is only natural for them to be more interested in their big-volume machinery. And, too, there is always a certain amount of resistance to new ideas and reluctance to try them out when the financial return is not immediately predictable.

Let us consider one step in the production of canning crops where the lack of equipment is holding back progress in raising efficiency of production and lowering costs of processing. This is in the control of insects and disease. Two illustrations can be cited where the chemical research on insecticides,

and the entomological research on formulations and control, are 20 years ahead of the research on equipment for their application. The research work of Dr. Decker of the Illinois Experiment Station and the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the USDA on new insecticides and formulations has shown that it is now possible to secure sufficient control of the European corn borer to obtain a 20 percent increase in yields, increased cut-off percent, and to make an enormous saving in the canning plant overhead through increasing the daily pack.

Another factor of extreme importance to canners in this work is the elimination of the hazard of insect fragments or worms in canned corn.

Corn Borer Control

The promising results on corn borer control are very important at this time, in view of the extremely heavy infestation in parts of the East, Midwest, and the spread of this insect to the remaining sweet corn producing States. But the practical control of corn borer by insecticides is largely dependent on precise timing of application. The fundamental entomological "know-how" is available on that point. However, what is needed is some concentrated research on insecticide applicators for airplanes. Neither the individual experiment stations nor the USDA can afford to do this type of engineering research which is so badly needed immediately.

The Division of Agricultural Engineering of the USDA has a laboratory at Toledo with equipment and facilities and an engineer, Frank Irons, who has, according to a number of people in research and industry, the training and "know-how" to solve this problem, in cooperation with the entomologists in the USDA and in the sweet corn States. One engineer, a Cub plane and a couple of helpers cannot solve this problem on a part-time basis.

The USDA and the States of Illinois and Wisconsin are now spending approximately \$175,000 a year on chemical, entomological and engineering research and have the trained personnel to carry out such a special project if funds were made available for special equipment, mechanics, and assistants. The work could probably be completed in three years.

The pea canners have a similar problem on the control of pea aphid and weevil. Not only will pea aphid control increase yields but elimination of this carrier of pea virus diseases will greatly increase the percentage of fancy peas at maturity. The pea canners likewise might be interested in the engineering development of plane applicators for insecticides, along with bean and asparagus canners and may wish to consider contributing to a fund for engineering research.

REPORT ON SWEET CORN HARVESTER CONFERENCE

By D. R. Montgomery, Chairman

At the request of the corn canning industry, the National Canners Association called a meeting at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, October 17, of all corn canners to discuss problems in connection with the mechanical harvesting of sweet corn.

At the suggestion of Dr. Mahoney, a permanent chairman of the meeting was chosen, R. H. Winters of the Larsen Company, Green Bay, Wis., being selected. The chairman then appointed F. S. Silver of The Silver Canning Company, Coloma, Md., as secretary. The purpose of the meeting as restated by the permanent chairman was as follows: First, the meeting of this particular group was specified as being entirely advisory; second, the meeting had been called to discuss the defects of mechanical corn pickers as used in 1947 and to collect and offer constructive suggestions to the manufacturers of mechanical corn pickers, and third, to express faith in the mechanical corn picker as a method of sweet corn harvesting.

Everyone present recognized the many defects of the 1947 pickers and hoped that by a pooling of experience and ideas, maximum progress could be obtained in new models to be built for the 1948 season. The relative merits and limitations of all harvesters were discussed in specific detail and constructive suggestions for improvement were offered by a large number of those present who had actually worked with these machines. The following harvesters were discussed in detail: Allis Chalmers, Sargent, Oliver, Wood Brothers, and Eckholm. It was also brought out that the development of a self-powered unit which might be towed like a combine by any tractor and be more easily adjusted to row width might be a practical solution.

As it was realized by all that much work needed to be done to help improve machines for 1948 use, and that a long-range program of experiment

and research was called for to obtain the best possible machine for the future, Chairman Winters was authorized to appoint a representative committee to advise with all interested manufacturers and to initiate desirable long-range research projects. The following committee was named:

Chairman: D. R. Montgomery, Fairmont Canning Co., Fairmont, Minn.; J. D. Barnard, Minnesota Valley Canning Co., Le Sueur, Minn.; C. H. Blaska, Oconomowoc Canning Co., Waunakee, Wis.; G. V. Bonus, Libby, McNeill & Libby, Walworth, Wis.; Sidney Day, Birds Eye-Snyder Div., General Foods Corp., Rochester, N. Y.; Howard Heron, California Packing Corp., Rochelle, Ill. (J. E. Countryman, alternate); R. W. Jones, R. W. Jones Canning Co., Arlington, Ind.; Frank E. Leonard, Stokely Foods, Inc., Astico, Wis.; F. S. Silver, The Silver Canning Co., Coloma, Md.; Stran Summers, C. G. Summers, Jr., Inc., New Freedom, Pa.; and Fred T. Wright, Beaver Valley Canning Co., Grimes, Iowa.

Advisory Members: Dr. B. A. Jennings, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Dr. Charles H. Mahoney, National Canners Association, Washington, D. C.; and Harvey R. Burr, Corn Canners Service Bureau, Chicago, Ill.

The meeting then passed a motion to request that the Directors of the National Canners Association authorize creation of a special Sweet Corn Commodity Committee to promote the earliest possible development of a satisfactory sweet corn harvester or harvesters, and to initiate and foster desirable research projects; second, that said committee be authorized to raise a research fund by a per case subscription from corn canners to promote such work, and third, that said committee be authorized to select advisory members from Federal and State agencies or associations, or from the allied industries to aid in its work. This motion was seconded and passed without a dissenting vote.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT ON 1948 PLANS

By William Kinnaid, Chairman

The Association reported yesterday that the hotel room assignments have been mailed out to all members, and is still getting a few late reservation requests. If anyone has failed so far to get his request in, please get busy and do so at once. Canners should take immediate steps to get confirmation of their rooms from the hotels to which they have been assigned, and November 30 is the deadline for this operation. Your prompt action will be of a great deal of assistance to the staff and save a lot of confusion.

The type of program that is apparently favored for the 1948 Convention at Atlantic City is similar to the one presented last year. This consists of three general sessions, the first on Monday morning, January 19, to present big name speakers, the second on Tuesday morning to be given over to another panel, and the third on Wednesday morning, the usual closing business session at which new officers are installed and the Convention resolutions presented and voted on.

The staff has made some progress in booking general speakers. "Red" Motley, publisher of Parade and well-

known figure in publishing and public relations circles, has consented to appear, and Dean William Myers of the Cornell University College of Agriculture also has agreed to discuss the impact of foreign relief programs on America's food economy. The Committee and the staff will continue working on a list of other prominent program prospects.

Committee Recommendations

The Committee would like to make the following recommendations for Board approval:

(1) *That the public auditorium be used to house not only the general sessions, but also the various N.C.A. offices.*

These offices consist of conference rooms for the laboratory personnel, the room reservation headquarters, locations for other N.C.A. Divisions, the press room and duplicating facilities, etc. The Auditorium has ideal facilities to house these various activities, which were not found satisfactory last year at the Traymore. The Canning Machinery and Supplies Association has generously donated to N.C.A. the use of such space. The locations are on the floor above the exhibit hall.

(2) *That the N.C.A. trailer laboratory be placed on exhibit, in space also offered by the Machinery Association.*

The Committee considers this good publicity, and also it will offer an opportunity for many canners, both members and non-members, who have not seen the trailer to become acquainted with the outstanding service it renders.

For future conventions, this Committee feels that efforts should be made to avoid the staggering of the meetings of the various associations

at Atlantic City, so that the sessions will not be prolonged beyond a week. It would like to see a return to a Friday-to-Friday session, encompassing one week for all, with arrangements for exhibits, for conferences with buyers, and for the respective business meetings of the associations set up so as to avoid conflict.

Experience in managing big conventions like this one has demonstrated that the old N.C.A. policy of deciding the time and place for the next convention after adjournment of the current convention will no longer work. Trade conventions more and more are being planned two and sometimes three years ahead, and unless the Association is empowered to do its planning and make its decisions on future conventions in this manner, we are likely some year to find all of the adequate locations booked by somebody else. This has become so serious a situation that your Committee, looking ahead to 1949 and 1950, very strongly urges that the President and the Secretary of the National Canners Association be authorized to use their judgment at any time when it appears necessary to decide and act upon selection of a convention location. This will achieve another advantage in that it will enable convention planning far enough ahead to make possible changes from one city to another.

1949 and 1950 Conventions

Therefore, the Committee requests that the Chair entertain a motion which would grant authority to the President and the Secretary of the National Canners Association to go ahead and make arrangements for booking the 1949 and 1950 conventions at any time they deem it necessary to take such action to protect the interests of the Association.

assurances that the information will be available for the 14 major products included here. The December stock reports will include canner stocks on the entire group consisting of apricots, fruit cocktail, peaches, pears, pineapple, pineapple juice, green and wax beans, sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes, tomato juice, grapefruit juice, orange juice, and blended citrus juice. The canner stocks for these products will be available monthly, except during the active packing season on fruits and vegetables. The canner pack and stocks will be compiled by the Division of Statistics and by the State Associations in Hawaii, California, the Northwest, Texas, and Florida. For these 14 major products, the Department of Commerce is compiling distributor stocks monthly.

Reports Summarized

For other products, distributor stock figures are not included under the Department of Commerce program. However, canner stock reports will be prepared for the following products: asparagus, beets, carrots, lima beans, tomato catsup, chili sauce, baby food, tomato and spaghetti sauce, pumpkin and squash, sauerkraut, spinach, apples, apple sauce, sweet cherries, and red pitted cherries. These stock reports will be issued at various intervals from monthly to twice a year for the different products. The program can be modified to fit changing conditions at a later date by changes in the number of reports for any product or by adding or removing particular products. Annual pack reports will be compiled for a number of additional products for which stock information will not be available. Pack and stock reports will not be compiled on dry beans and spaghetti in view of the limited response received last July.

To summarize, the pack and stock program covers information on pack holdings and shipments through to the retail level for the major products. On a considerable number of other products, information on pack and canner stocks and shipments will be available. The expanded program thus provides measures of the holdings and rate of movement needed by the industry in planning their production and merchandising activities. One secondary result will be that information on the packs of canned fruit will be available at an earlier date than formerly.

An increased volume of economic and statistical information from other sources is regularly being carried in the INFORMATION LETTER in line with our objective of providing the industry with pertinent facts. The expanded stock program and the increased volume of INFORMATION LETTER copy has been accomplished, in part, at the expense of analytical work. However, it should be possible to expand the work in research and analyses in the coming year.

REPORT ON PROGRAM OF DIVISION OF STATISTICS

By Milton Brooding, Chairman

At the May meeting of the Board of Directors, the proposed stock program of the Division of Statistics was outlined. I am now making a brief report on the progress that has been made in the development of this program.

The Statistical program included a plan for compiling pack and current stock information on an expanded basis. This was necessitated by the discontinuance of Government reporting of combined stocks of both canners and distributors. The committee program was dependent upon the Department of Commerce compiling distributor stocks and making this information available to the industry. I can now report almost a complete success

in establishing this service to the industry.

The Department of Commerce is now compiling monthly distributor stocks and the Statistical Division of the N. C. A. is compiling the corresponding information covering canner stocks with assistance from the State Associations in Hawaii, California, the Northwest, Texas and Florida.

In my last report the industry stock program was discussed under two headings:

1. Products for which both canner and distributor stock reports will be issued, and

2. Products for which only canner holdings will be available.

For the first group, arrangements either have been completed or we have

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND DRUG LEGISLATION

By Harold Bachelder, Chairman

Your Special Committee authorized by the Board at its May, 1947, meeting to investigate into proposals for changes in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law, submits the following report:

The Committee met in the Washington Headquarters on October 14, 1947, and was in session for two full days. The Committee reviewed all of the various proposals for changes in the statute and various criticisms and suggestions for improvement in the enforcement of the law and the regulations promulgated under it.

FDA Administration

With respect to one group of suggestions, the Committee felt that they were primarily matters of administration which should be fully canvassed with the Food and Drug Administration. This group included the following:

1. In some instances it has been reported that Food and Drug Inspectors enter a factory without the formality of securing permission from the man at the particular time in charge of the plant. It is believed better practice for such inspectors always to obtain permission from the person responsible for the factory operation at the time of the call.

2. Instances have likewise been reported in which inspectors have obtained erroneous information as to plant operations from conversations with people in the factory who knew nothing about them. The Committee believes the Food and Drug Administration should recognize the propriety of a factory supervisor, or of someone delegated by him, accompanying the inspector throughout the course of inspection.

3. It is believed desirable procedure for the inspector always to call to the attention of the plant superintendent any conditions or practice which the inspector deems to be improper or likely to result in a product which would be deemed in violation of the Act. This has been stated to be the general policy, but it appears that it has not always been followed in practice. Inasmuch as compliance with the law and regulations can best be achieved by cooperation, it is believed that inspectors should be instructed to follow this procedure.

4. Confusion appears to exist in the case of collection of samples for investigation as the basis for food standard proceedings. In some instances, it appears that samples at the standard-

substandard line were sought; but not unnaturally the canner furnished the inspector with his best grades. This difficulty in some measure arises from an inspector not making perfectly clear to the person in charge of the factory the purpose of his visit. It can in part be also remedied by the Food and Drug Administration notifying the Association that samples are being collected and the Association giving appropriate publicity to the canners concerned.

5. Some difficulty appears to have arisen because of misunderstanding on the part of both canners and inspectors as to what requests made by the inspector are honored, not as a matter of legal obligation, but as a matter of cooperation. Numerous instances have been reported in which the inspector apparently resented normal and proper cannery regulations concerning data and information to which the inspector was not legally entitled but which he nevertheless requested. In many instances, for example, cannery records are kept at a home office or central location; or reports of tests and grading on the production are subject to limited disclosure. As to information which is given to the inspector as a matter of cooperation, it is believed that the inspector should understand that this is the situation and should be agreeable to obtaining such information at the place where it is kept and in keeping with the canner's convenience without in any way feeling that the canner is recalcitrant or has anything to hide.

6. Recognizing that the statute does not require that an official analysis be afforded to canners, many nevertheless feel that there is a fundamental discrimination in not making such analyses available. As a corollary, it was felt that the Food and Drug Administration should endeavor to notify canners just as soon as possible in order that they may minimize the shipment of particular lots in interstate commerce and avoid the costs which later seizure might necessitate.

Routine Sampling

7. The Committee recognized that routine sampling after interstate shipment may be customary practice. Yet many instances have been reported of the canner's customers being told, at the time of sampling, that goods were questionable and that they should make no further sales or shipments until they heard from the Food and Drug Administration. In at least one instance there were no seizures and yet the customer never was given any further word with respect to the questioned goods. The possibility of this

type of unjustifiable intimation that a canner's goods are likely not to be in compliance with the statute, prior to actual examination of samples, warrants full discussion of this reported practice with the Administration.

The Committee discussed fully the problems of seizure of shipments and the prevailing rule that the entire shipment, irrespective of the number of separately identifiable lots, is to be regarded as a single article for seizure purposes. Your Committee recommends that the Act should be amended so as to permit a seized shipment to be separated into such lots as the canner demonstrates are separately identifiable and that the determination of violation and condemnation then be separately made for each lot, unless it should subsequently be demonstrated that such an amendment would impose an unreasonable obstacle to the enforcement of the law.

Matter of Tolerances

The Committee also reviewed in full detail the problems relating to the matter of tolerances or degree in the determination of whether or not a product is adulterated so as to justify condemnation. In this connection your Committee recognized the unsatisfactory situations which now exist, but is unable to offer any recommendations for its improvement.

Your Committee further reviewed the situation resulting from court decisions which have construed and applied the sections of the statute which provide for a standard of identity for a food, and agreed that the present status of this subject matter is not all that could be desired. However, the decisions in other cases may throw further light upon this problem and your Committee is not prepared at this time to recommend any action by the Association with regard to this problem.

The Committee further reviewed the legal problems in connection with securing court review of regulations establishing standards of identity, quality, or fill of container. The Committee concluded to await legal clarification of the extent of court review which will be available in cases where requests are made for amendment of these regulations.

Your Committee also considered the pending bill, requested by the Food and Drug Administration, to authorize the seizure of goods alleged to be adulterated or misbranded after interstate shipment had been completed. Inasmuch as the principal objection to this legislation involves questions of general legislative policy rather than matters peculiar to the canning industry, your Committee concluded to make no recommendations thereon.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

By J. B. Weix, *Chairman*

The committee of which I was named chairman conferred with then Under Secretary of War Royall who turned thumbs down on continued negotiated buying. This decision was taken even though certain people in the Quartermaster Corps favored negotiated buying.

When the bill was heard before the Senate Armed Services Committee, the War Department said it did not want negotiated buying of canned foods.

The Legislative Committee is considering its next step, but the question

has been raised whether the canning industry wants to continue to attempt to get statutory authority for negotiated buying, or in view of the War Department's position to forget the question.

This was talked over at the Administrative Council which voted to recommend to the Board of Directors that it instruct the Legislative Committee to continue to press for negotiated buying.

We may not be successful, but the Legislative Committee is willing to make the attempt.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AN OVERALL BUILDING COMMITTEE

By Marc C. Hutchinson, *Chairman*

At the Administrative Council meeting the Chairman of the Building Committee to purchase a Washington site reported that a satisfactory building site had not been obtained as yet. The whole range of problems connected with a new building in Washington and a new Western Branch Laboratory Building were canvassed. Particularly the question of financing was explored and there was a considerable body of opinion that investigation of means and methods of financing should be made contemporaneously with investigation of possible building sites in Washington.

It was also thought desirable that, because of the necessity for coordinating all laboratory research work, the plans for new laboratories should be reviewed by the Committee on Scientific Research, and that all building plans and necessary financing should be considered together.

The Administrative Council there-

fore recommends to the Board that both the present Washington Building Committee and the Western Branch Laboratory Site Committee be relieved of further responsibility and that a new overall Association Buildings Committee be appointed to plan and coordinate the entire building program of the Association, and to consider necessary land acquisition, buildings, facilities and a program for financing them.

It was also recognized that this committee might have to incur some expenses for plans, professional engineering or architectural advice, or if the circumstances should require for the securing of an option on a particular building site before the next Board meeting. The Council therefore recommended that this overall Association Buildings Committee be authorized to spend not in excess of \$25,000 for carrying out its functions. It is further proposed that the committee report its recommendations back to this Board of Directors as promptly as possible.

REPORT ON LABORATORY WORK ON FOOD STANDARDS

By E. J. Cameron, *Director*

During the present year we have been actively engaged in studies on canned asparagus, canned green and wax beans and canned corn. We have been given to understand that public hearings will probably be held next spring on canned beans and canned corn and possibly on canned asparagus.

Canned Asparagus

Both the Washington laboratory and the Western Branch laboratory have been studying the problems connected with green asparagus and white asparagus. It seems probable that the most discussion will center around the standards of identity for the many styles of pack of this product. Samples

have been secured illustrating all of the styles of pack that have come to our attention.

For the standard of quality, Mr. Wilder of our Western Branch laboratory has devised a testing instrument which appears to be well suited to the needs for a suitable standard for the tough fibers in certain parts of asparagus. Samples have been secured from the principal canning areas. Certain special experimental packs were prepared to show the possibility of a fill-of-container standard.

Because of the many questions involved in the standards of identity it may be profitable to have a preliminary discussion of the matter before the Foods Standards Committee of the Food and Drug Administration

(this is similar to the appearance made before the Foods Standards Committee in connection with a standard for canned corn last spring).

Canned Green and Wax Beans

A new hearing is to be held on standards for green and wax beans. Special effort has been made to secure samples to show the factors of quality and of identity which canners believe to be important items for revision in the final standard. This is a cooperative effort formed principally by the National and Regional associations.

Canned Corn

During the past season additional samples of whole kernel brine packed corn representing especially white varieties were obtained from various sections of the country. We believe that we have a fairly complete set of samples for use in establishing a substandard level of maturity for this product. Special studies were carried on with reference to fill of container of whole kernel corn, both brine pack and vacuum pack. There are several important factors involved in a satisfactory fill of container for these products and we are endeavoring to bring to the attention of the officials in charge of the hearing the practical side of a reasonable standard of fill of container.

On November 11 and 12 in Chicago, preliminary meetings were held on each of the three products to review the data that has been assembled and try to plan for the most effective presentation of information on all of the points involved.

We were told just a few days ago that the Food and Drug Administration is starting studies on canned sweet potatoes looking toward the formulation of standards for this product. There are several questions of identity and fill of container involved. We have not been able to do any work on this product this season due to shortage of man power.

In all of our laboratory studies we have tried to keep in close touch with the technologists of the Food and Drug Administration. It is important that we know the methods being tried out by these men and conversely that we inform the Food and Drug officials of certain of the problems in production and distribution of products in question. We have come to feel that it is industry's responsibility to be sure that the Government is furnished with complete information, and, where necessary, with samples to illustrate the important conditions that affect the standard which may be established.

At the beginning of 1947 we were prepared to take care of a rather unusual amount of work connected with food standards formulation and for the most part the Laboratory has been able to carry the load. The amount of work that would be necessary however, was predictable only to a limited

extent and we are faced with the same situation in 1948. We expect that there will be a new hearing on green and wax beans and a hearing on corn sometime in the spring. There may be a hearing on asparagus. Work on sweet potatoes is in prospect and new products may come under consideration during the year.

At the present time, there is reason to believe that the amount of work involved in 1948 will approximate that for 1947. But we cannot be sure of

this because when a hearing is concluded for a product, there is no assurance that it will be removed from the consideration of the laboratory and, in point, we may cite the green and wax bean standards. Thus we have no way of knowing what may arise by way of extended work on corn and asparagus. In short, while we may plan on the basis of work that we know is in definite prospect we have got to work on a catch-as-catch-can basis where new announcements are made.

New York, Ohio, Washington and Utah.

The following table shows the 1946 and 1947 harvested acreages together with the production in tons for the two years:

Green Lima Beans for Processing

State	1946		1947	
	—Acres—		—Tons—	
New York.....	810	1,000	380	880
New Jersey.....	12,800	13,000	8,770	6,630
Pennsylvania.....	3,800	4,400	1,940	2,420
Ohio.....	1,000	810	370	320
Michigan.....	3,320	2,200	1,560	770
Wisconsin.....	3,800	4,800	3,230	2,320
Delaware.....	12,800	13,000	8,770	9,820
Maryland.....	2,800	3,100	1,540	1,600
Virginia.....	2,700	3,000	1,460	1,280
Utah.....	250	100	150	70
Washington.....	350	700	230	520
California.....	7,990	13,620	8,190	13,620
Other States ¹ ...	14,860	15,340	8,020	7,080
U. S. total...	67,280	75,970	44,610	47,200

¹ Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Tennessee.

Raw Product Statistics

General Crop Conditions Are About Same on November 1

Late crop prospects were mostly maintained or slightly improved as October weather was favorable to ideal for maturing, curing and harvesting crops, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported this week. Harvest of corn, cotton, soybeans and other late crops has proceeded at about the usual rate and harvest of earlier maturing crops was completed with a minimum of loss. While a slight decrease in corn production is now indicated, a significant improvement in quality and feeding value resulted from the extended growing and curing season.

The total volume of crop production was only slightly affected by minor changes for most crops and still is only 1 percent below the average of the 5 excellent years 1942 to 1946. The index of aggregate production at 120 percent of the 1923-32 base is only 6 points below the record set last season.

Total fruit production this season is estimated at only 4 percent below last season's record total and about 20 percent above average. This includes not only the deciduous fruits now virtually all harvested, but also citrus crops to be harvested from the current fall to next summer.

Combined production of deciduous fruits is 6 percent below last year's record, but 12 percent above average. This includes an average apple crop, about 6 percent less than last year; a peach crop a third above average and only 3 percent below last year; a record pear crop; a grape crop one-sixth above average and only 3 percent below last year's record; but plums and prunes below both the average and last season.

Prospective citrus production is slightly less than the 1946-47 total, for

while there are 5 percent less oranges, there are 5 percent more grapefruit and lemons.

GREEN LIMA BEANS

Production for 1947 Is 6 Percent Higher Than Last Year BAE States

The 1947 preliminary estimated production of green lima beans for canning, freezing and other processing is 47,200 tons, according to a report issued this week by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This exceeds the 1946 production of 44,610 tons by 6 percent and the 1936-45 average of 29,490 tons by 60 percent.

The 1947 planted acreage is estimated at 83,910 acres. This compares with 74,170 acres planted in 1946 and the 10-year average plantings of 57,510 acres. The 1947 harvested acreage is placed at 75,970 acres. This compares with 67,280 acres harvested in 1946 and the average of 53,080 acres.

Of the acreage planted in 1947 to green lima beans it is estimated about 10 percent was not harvested for processing. Loss of acreage in the United States is usually around 8 percent but this year in several important States, dry weather inflicted some damage to the growing crop. Acreage losses were particularly severe in Michigan and Ohio.

The 1947 estimated yield of 1,243 pounds per acre compares with 1,326 pounds for 1946 and 1,116 pounds for the 1936-45 average. In California, where almost one-fifth of the acreage was grown this year, the yield per acre is estimated at 2,000 pounds. Other important States with yields near or better than average include Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania,

PIMIENTOS FOR PROCESSING

BAE Reports 1947 Production Is 17 Percent Less Than Last Year's Output

A harvest of 19,140 tons of pimientos for processing is estimated for California and Georgia in 1947, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This 1947 production is 17 percent less than the 1946 production of 23,160 tons and 17 percent more than the 1936-45 average production of 16,370 tons.

The yield of 1.15 tons per acre compares with 1.68 tons for 1946 and an average of 1.20 tons. Dry weather in Georgia early in the season was unfavorable for the growth of the crop and the yield per acre is the lowest since 1943 when it averaged .90 tons. Better than average yields were being obtained in California although they failed to equal the yield obtained in 1946.

The following table shows the 1946 and 1947 harvested acreages together with the production in tons for the two years:

Pimientos for Processing

State	1946		1947	
	—Acres—		—Tons—	
California.....	770	600	4,700	2,640
Georgia.....	13,000	16,000	18,460	16,500
Total.....	13,770	16,600	23,160	19,140

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

1947 Crop Drops Below Last Year
by About 6 Percent BAE
Report Shows

The 1947 production of cucumbers for pickles was 6 percent less than the record 1946 crop but nearly 45 percent more than average, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week.

Yield per acre for the country as a whole established a new record, 80 bushels, which compares with the previous record of 79 bushels in 1945, a near record of 78 in 1946, and an average of 73 bushels.

The preliminary estimate of acreage harvested is 124,200 acres. This is nearly 8 percent less than the area harvested in 1946 but still one-third more than average.

The revised estimate of acreage planted in 1947 is 138,310 acres. This compares with a preliminary figure of 135,590 acres, indicated in June 1947, and with 149,450 acres planted in 1946. The loss of 1947 planted acreage was, therefore, about average, 10.2 percent. In 1946 abandonment of planted acreage amounted to 8.9 percent.

Comparative acreage and production figures for 1946 and 1947 are shown in the following table:

Cucumbers for Pickles

State	Revised Acreage		Preliminary Production	
	1946	1947	1946	1947
	—Acres—		—1,000 Bu.—	
Massachusetts..	950	840	91	98
New York.....	1,450	1,100	115	57
Ohio.....	2,300	2,700	126	200
Indiana.....	6,300	6,500	410	299
Illinois.....	900	1,000	86	48
Michigan.....	42,900	35,600	2,445	2,172
Wisconsin.....	20,100	18,900	1,427	1,852
Minnesota.....	2,300	1,600	106	141
Iowa.....	1,260	500	94	20
Missouri.....	1,500	900	117	32
Maryland.....	6,200	4,600	558	419
Delaware.....	1,600	1,900	122	114
Virginia.....	4,800	6,100	408	494
North Carolina..	6,800	7,400	456	644
South Carolina..	2,900	1,900	290	141
Georgia.....	8,500	6,000	502	354
Louisiana.....	600	650	43	46
Texas.....	1,600	4,800	104	312
Colorado.....	2,500	2,300	432	430
Washington.....	1,200	800	268	198
Oregon.....	1,650	1,000	205	212
California.....	4,230	1,850	1,206	673
Other States ¹ ..	12,040	15,260	709	929
U. S. total...	134,580	124,200	10,500	9,885

¹Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Utah.

Fish Statistics

California Sardine Pack

Deliveries of California sardines to processing plants, during the week ended November 6, totaled 188 tons. Pack of sardines during the week aggregated 57,624 cases.

The following table, prepared from figures supplied by the California Sardine Products Institute, shows the sardine deliveries by districts and the pack by can sizes for the current season as compared with 1946:

Areas	Season to Nov. 6, 1947	Season to Nov. 7, 1946
	Tons	Tons
Northern district....	135	503
Central district.....	11,009	23,691
Southern district....	65,285	98,862
Total.....	77,329	123,056
Can sizes	Cases	Cases
1-lb. ovals.....	515,157	278,926
1-lb. talls.....	382,177	986,807
½-lb. filets.....	4,000	7,700
8-oz. 96's.....	19,102	21,432
Miscellaneous.....	94,771	20,030
Total.....	1,015,207	1,320,994

Frozen and Cured Fish Stocks In Cold Storage Are Reported

Holdings of frozen and cured fish in cold storage on November 1, 1947, totaled 173,764,000 pounds, as compared with October 1, 1947, holdings of 165,300,000 pounds, and the November 1, 1946, stocks of 177,120,000 pounds, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of Interior has reported. The following table lists, by varieties, the quantities of frozen and cured fish held in cold storage during the respective periods:

SPECIES	Nov. 1, 1947	Oct. 1, 1947	Nov. 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Fresh-water fish:			
Bait and animal food.	272	371	326
Blue pike and sauger (inc. filets).....	313	128	169
Catfish and bullheads	152	217	184
Chubs.....	351	428	307
Lake herring & cisco (inc. filets).....	685	663	2,320
Lake trout.....	599	512	571
Pickered, jacks or yellow jacks.....	115	72	114
Sturgeon and spoon- bill cat.....	340	262	450
Suckers.....	24	18	29
Tullibee.....	252	208	236
Yellow perch (inc. filets).....	325	247	424
Yellow pike (or wall- eye) (inc. filets)...	379	153	193
Whitefish.....	1,328	1,072	1,747
Miscellaneous fresh- water fish.....	1,469	1,170	1,488

Frozen Food Statistics

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Are Increasing Slightly

Stocks of frozen fruit in cold storage on November 1, 1947, totaled 410 million pounds, according to a report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This compares with 403 million pounds a month earlier and 510 million pounds in cold storage on November 1, 1946. The net increase in holdings of frozen fruit during October was 7 million pounds or slightly less than the October increase last year of 8 million pounds and the average October increase of 10 million pounds.

Frozen vegetable stocks in cold storage on November 1, 1947, totaled 350 million pounds compared with 353 million pounds a month earlier and 351 million pounds on November 1, 1946.

Frozen fruit and vegetable stocks by commodities for November 1, 1947,

with comparisons, as reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, are shown below:

FROZEN FRUITS	Nov. 1, 1947	Oct. 1, 1947	Nov. 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Apples.....	30,300	28,306	30,276
Apricots.....	20,973	21,799	38,022
Blackberries.....	20,901	21,030	24,415
Blueberries.....	11,707	12,247	16,890
Cherries.....	66,320	72,923	77,401
Grapes.....	22,100	6,249	17,341
Peaches.....	46,254	47,066	68,062
Plums and prunes.....	11,305	12,639	25,191
Raspberries.....	27,100	28,988	27,326
Strawberries.....	55,372	61,491	54,738
Young, Logan, Boyesen, etc.....	17,374	17,460	15,893
Fruit juices and purees.....	28,745	22,447	33,349
All other fruits.....	51,707	50,200	72,347
Total.....	410,247	402,821	510,257
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus.....	14,595	16,072	20,369
Beans, lima.....	42,942	38,042	33,314
Beans, snap.....	26,500	29,214	31,654
Broccoli.....	8,174	8,933	13,829
Brussels sprouts.....	4,958	4,376	4,537
Cauliflower.....	7,278	6,083	6,745
Corn, sweet.....	40,373	38,421	41,166
Peas, green.....	138,601	155,051	122,053
Pumpkin and squash.....	11,045	7,378	9,680
Spinach.....	18,713	18,207	23,673
All other vegetables.....	37,062	30,662	44,283
Total.....	350,301	353,239	351,273

SPECIES	Nov. 1, 1947	Oct. 1, 1947	Nov. 1, 1946
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Salt-water fish:			
Bait and animal food	1,736	1,999	1,835
Bluefish	195	155	183
Butterfish	690	390	545
Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, whole	1,175	1,354	1,384
Croakers	1,066	1,651	634
Eels	214	132	239
Fillets (miscellaneous)	26,173	24,265	32,416
Flounders (inc. fillets)	1,953	2,022	2,731
Halibut	19,021	22,666	19,024
Herring, sea	1,323	978	1,914
Mackerel (Boston (inc. fillets)	8,498	7,691	3,594
Mullet	277	272	1,238
Sablefish (black cod)	3,057	3,218	7,255
Salmon (all species)	13,051	13,202	21,965
Soup (Porgies)	750	840	828
Sea trout (weakfish, gray and spotted)	835	459	980
Shad and shad roe	527	429	518
Smeets (sea)	687	832	1,183
Swordfish	1,031	877	1,142
Whiting (inc. fillets)	15,884	17,202	10,481
Miscellaneous salt- water fish	16,249	15,833	13,241
Shellfish:			
Lobster tails (spiny lobster)	436	380	541
Scallops	2,067	1,837	1,884
Shrimp	13,929	7,705	11,199
Squid	2,229	1,860	1,090
Miscellaneous shell- fish	2,068	1,995	2,868
Frozen fish, total	141,734	135,870	149,549
Cured fish, total	32,030	29,430	27,571
Total, all fish	173,764	165,300	177,120

Labeling

Prune Juice Labeling

Dr. G. A. Vacha, Chief Bacteriologist, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Dairy, and Foods, has authorized for publication in the INFORMATION LETTER the following statement:

"In view of the fact that PRUNE JUICE has become widely and almost universally used as the common or usual name of a water extract of dried prunes, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Dairy, and Food will add to the list of common or usual names by which this product may now be labeled for sale in Minnesota the name PRUNE JUICE, provided that a conspicuous explanatory statement such as 'A Water Extract of Dried Prunes' be printed on the label adjacent to the common or usual name PRUNE JUICE."

This ruling, in effect, now permits the sale of prune juice in Minnesota when labeled the same as it is for sale in other States, provided the label meets with requirements of the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

Congress

CIO Advocates Elimination of Canner Wage-Hour Exemptions

The CIO has endorsed proposals of its affiliate unions for terminating wage and hour exemptions in the "area of production" and for workers employed in fish processing. The CIO position was presented on November 11 to the House Labor Subcommittee studying the need for changes in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The CIO cited the position of the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers Union of America, who advocate the elimination of Section 13(a) (10)

of the Act, exempting an estimated 300,000 agricultural workers.

The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, on November 13, recommended that agricultural workers be brought "under the protection of the Act, with respect to wages and hours." In his statement to the Subcommittee, the ILWU representative specifically mentioned workers, whom it represents, employed in sugar processing and the pineapple industry in Hawaii.

The National Consumers League, on November 8, recommended that all exemptions be eliminated from the Wage and Hour law. On the same day, the National League of Wholesale Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Distributors asked for a redefinition of "area of production" to mean "any farm, grove or orchard which supplies" a packing house.

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